

Remarkably, despite the fact that many people of Asian and Pacific Islander descent were not allowed to naturalize during this period, a disproportionately high percentage enlisted to fight on both sides of the Civil War. After the war, however, scores of these soldiers and sailors were unjustly denied their due recognition and benefits.

H. Res. 415 is a long overdue expression of appreciation for the loyal service of the Civil War veterans of Asian and Pacific Islander heritage. The United States House of Representatives stands to recognize their contributions to our Nation's history and to speak against the injustices done to them despite their patriotism and honorable service.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE RETIREMENT OF MAJOR GENERAL JEFFREY R. REIMER, UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

**HON. JEFF MILLER**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, August 1, 2008*

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor MG Jeffrey Reimer as he retires from the United States Air Force after 34 years of service.

A 1974 graduate of the University of Florida, Major General Reimer held a variety of important assignments in his 34 years of service. As the top graduate from his pilot training program class, he initially served as an F-4C Wild Weasel pilot. Assigned to the Air Training Command, he was the top graduate from T-37 instructor training and the Instructor Pilot of the Year. He has effectively served the Nation in numerous positions within the test and acquisition community. He was an F-16 acceptance test pilot and was selected to attend the Air Force Institute of Technology and USAF Test Pilot School. As a distinguished graduate of the school, he served as an instructor and continued his experimental test pilot duties at the F-16 Combined Test Force.

Major General Reimer served in the Office of the Secretary of Defense as a military staff assistant for developmental testing of aircraft and air-to-air missiles. His later assignments include: Program manager for the MC-130H Combat Talon and program director of special programs for the Air-to-Air Joint System Program Office. He has commanded the 4953rd Test Squadron, Air Force Security Assistance Center, and the Air Armament Center. In his most recent assignment, Major General Reimer served as the Air Force Program Executive Officer for the F-22. He saved the taxpayers \$411 million using a multi-year contract to purchase 60 F-22 aircraft.

On a personal note, I had the pleasure of working very closely with Major General Reimer when he was Commander of the Air Armament Center at Eglin Air Force Base. Together, we worked through test facility closure and test wing consolidation issues. He provided strong leadership and candid assessments to Air Force officials which were necessary to effectively accomplish the mission.

Madam Speaker, few can match the dedication and professionalism of MG Jeffrey Reimer. He is a man of honor and a man of principle. In his 34 years of service, he has touched the lives of many and our Nation is

stronger because of his dedicated service. On behalf of the United States Congress, I wish to thank MG Jeffrey Reimer for his years of dedicated service. Vicki and I wish him and his family our best wishes for success and happiness in the future.

A TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE OF  
DONALD RAY TOW

**HON. JIM COSTA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, August 1, 2008*

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the life of Donald Ray Tow of Selma, California, who recently passed away at the age of 74. He leaves behind the love of his life of 44 years, Marie, along with 4 children, 13 grandchildren and 7 great-grandchildren.

Mr. Tow was born on June 2, 1934, in Checotah, Oklahoma, but was raised in the Central Valley. As a teenager Don moved from Bakersfield to Selma, California, and graduated from Selma High School in 1952. Upon graduation from Selma High School he attended Reedley College prior to joining the U.S. Air Force in 1953. While in the Air Force Don proudly served his country in Korea.

After returning from Korea he continued his education at Fresno State College, where he received his master's degree in education. His first job was at Eric White Elementary in Selma, California, as a sixth grade teacher. After teaching for 13 years he went on to become a principal at Washington School in Kingsburg, California. In 1990, he moved on to Roosevelt Junior High, also as a principal.

He was devoted to his community, serving on the Selma Unified School Board, the Selma City Council, and most recently as mayor of the city of Selma. Mr. Tow not only had a passion for education but also for sports and especially for baseball. His huge interest in sports drew him to coaching in the Selma Little League. One of his favorite pastimes was family outings to Morro Bay, and Dinkey Creek, and watching his grandchildren at their sporting events.

It goes without saying that Mr. Donald Ray "Don" Tow was an honorable man with a commitment to family, friends and the community that will forever live in the lives of the people he so graciously touched. His passion for family, education, and his community will be remembered by all who knew him. I am honored and humbled to join his family in celebrating the life of this amazing man who will never be forgotten.

TRIBUTE TO RACHEL JAGODA  
BRUNETTE

**HON. BART GORDON**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, August 1, 2008*

Mr. GORDON of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize a talented individual who has been a dedicated member of our committee staff—Rachel Jagoda Brunette.

Rachel came to the committee at the beginning of the 109th Congress as a staff assistant

for the Republican majority. Her talent was quickly recognized, and she was soon promoted to professional staff for the research subcommittee. As a staffer for that subcommittee, she handled math and science education issues.

At the start of this Congress, the committee offered positions to several staffers of former Chairman Boehlert and we were fortunate that Rachel accepted our offer. She moved to the Subcommittee on Technology and Innovation and deftly transitioned to a broad portfolio of technology issues, from Homeland Security science and technology to surface transportation research and development.

Her bachelor's degree in physics from Georgetown University and a master's in political management from the George Washington University were an excellent foundation for navigating the nexus between science and policy. Rachel also came to the committee with experience in this area, having worked at the Federation of American Scientists, the American Society for Engineering Education, and the American National Standards Institute.

With intellectual curiosity and an appreciation for scientific knowledge, Rachel spent countless hours absorbing technical details and navigating the political and bureaucratic contexts of her issues. Rachel recognizes how science and technology can help communities meet their needs on the ground.

Rachel performed valuable legislative and oversight duties for the committee. These legislative efforts included H.R. 5161, the Green Transportation Infrastructure Research and Technology Transfer Act and H.R. 3877, the Mine Communications Technology Innovation Act. Her oversight contributions included border security technologies and research and development for energy savings in transportation systems.

Rachel has spent over 3 years working on the Hill and over 9 years in Washington. She is heading to Portland, and our loss is Oregon's gain. She has been a wonderful asset to this committee and will be missed by both Members and staff. I want to thank her for her service to the committee and the science community at large, and I wish her—and her growing family—all the best.

FAMILY SMOKING PREVENTION  
AND TOBACCO CONTROL ACT

SPEECH OF

**HON. VIRGINIA FOXX**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 30, 2008*

Ms. FOXX. Madam Speaker, I strongly oppose this 190-page bill, hastily offered under suspension of the rules, which establishes a new Federal authority for the regulation of the tobacco industry. This legislation adds another layer of bureaucracy to the already overburdened Food and Drug Administration, and another layer of regulation to American consumers' lives.

This bill includes more than \$5 billion in new tax increases on tobacco companies and gives sweeping control of the tobacco market to the FDA. Chairman DINGELL, discussing the recent salmonella outbreak, was recently quoted in the Wall Street Journal as saying that "there's a total inability of the FDA to